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Mohammad S. Rahman

MAY 06 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of Black et al.

Scrial No. 10/039,635

Filed: January 2, 2002

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Group Art Unit: 2881

Atty. Docket: YOR920010319US1

Examiner: Johnston, Phillip A.

SCANNING PROBE MICROSCOPY TIPS COMPOSED OF

NANOPARTICLES AND METHODS TO FORM SAME

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

For:

This preliminary amendment is being submitted concurrently with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in response to the Advisory Action mailed April 5, 2005 and further in response to the Office Action of January 11, 2005. Please charge Deposit Account #50-0510 for all fees related to the submission of the RCE and this preliminary amendment, including the payment of any extension fees and excess claim fees. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

10/039,635